IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 13, as follows:

In the numerical analysis, being represented by, such as, the finite-element method, for example, a model is made up with aggregation of elements, such as, a hexahedron and/or a tetrahedron, for example, as the material to be a target of analyzing (i.e., an analysis target). Also, in a case where the target material of analyzing has a thin-plate structure, a load on computing thereof can be reduced by utilizing a tetragon element and/or a triangle element, to which is given thickness as [[a]] an attribute value thereof. When using a three(3)-dimensional CAD system, since a material (i.e., a configuration model) was already produced as for the analysis target, therefore even the configuration model of the thin-plate structure is defined to be a solid having thickness.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 25, as follows:

Conventionally, in a method for producing such [[the]] a shell-model for use in analyzing from the solid-model of thin-plate structure, as is described in Japanese Patent Laying-Open No. Hei 6-259505 (1994) <JP-A 6-259505>, for example, a thin plate-like configuration portion is designated as the configuration model to be the target of numerical analysis, and then a surface is extracted, which has a geometric feature of being parallel to the surface, among surfaces connecting to the configuration designated. ~~And, the~~ The surfaces, being in parallel with the surface extracted and also being shortest in the distance therebetween, are specified as a pair, and a medial-surface is produced with respect to the pair of surfaces, thereby producing the analysis model.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 21, as follows:

However, in the method for producing the shell-model for use in analyzing, which is described in the Japanese Patent Laying-Open No. Hei 6-259505, for example, since an operator must give an instruction to the thin film-like configuration part, and also only the surface contacting in parallel with the configuration instructed comes to be a target of producing the neutral surface, the operator must give [[the]] instructions [[in]] a ~~plural~~ number of times to that configuration, in particular, if it is a complicated configuration model, and/or a configuration having a rib, for example, and therefore it is not easy to produce the shell model for use in analyzing.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 23 as follows:

Conventionally, since the thin-plate like configuration portion is designated by an operator, she/he must ~~designate~~ input designations of the configuration [[by]] a ~~plural~~ number of times, in particular, when it has a rib or is the complicated configuration model, however according to the present embodiment, the internal-surface model can be produced, only by inputting the reference-plate thickness, easily. Also, conventionally, the neutral surface model is produced, not as the configuration model, but as the mesh data, therefore it is necessary to re-produce the configuration model form the mesh data when changing the configuration for a parameter survey, etc. However, according to the present embodiment, since the internal-surface model is produced as the configuration model, it is possible to change the configuration, easily, on the configuration of the internal-surface model produced, by conducting the operations, such as, the bending process and the drilling process, for example. Accordingly, it is possible to produce the analytical shell-model, easily.